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NO. 5.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

News Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

Twenty-seven persons were drowned by the collapse of a wooden bridge in Russia.

Two negroes and one white man were killed and six negroes wounded in a race war in Louisiana.

The prohibition officer of the night court in New York says the white slave trade is on the increase.

Provisional President Estrada, of Nicaragua, has requested official recognition from the state department.

A final appeal in the case of John H. Walsh, convicted banker, has been made to the United States supreme court.

Leaders of the American Federation of Labor urge Secretary Nagel to make a thorough investigation into the various phases of industrial education.

Miss Anna Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, and Mrs. G. H. P. Belmont have taken up the cause of the striking shirtwaist workers of New York City.

Dr. Brashear, a noted astronomer of the university of Pittsburgh, says he does not believe either Cook or Peary can furnish any good proof of having reached the pole.

Savants of the Danish university are deeply embarrassed by their former championship of Dr. Cook, as they are unable to find any acceptable proof that he reached the pole.

A party of American explorers reported to have been devoured by cannibals on the island of Tiburon, in the Gulf of California, have arrived safe at a small town on the Mexican coast.

Grand Duke Michael, of Russia, is dead.

The I. W. W. of Spokane has given up the fight for free speech.

A silver loving cup has been presented to Peary by New York friends.

Texas is in the grip of a blizzard, and the railroads are using snow plows.

Many new cafes will open in San Francisco under the rule of Mayor-elect McCarthy.

Danish scientists at Copenhagen are much inclined to think Cook's alleged records are false.

Seven railroad wrecks in one week caused death of 28 and injury of over one hundred persons.

A flow of 150 barrels of oil per day is reported to have been struck in Cow Hollow, in Eastern Oregon.

Green River, Wyoming, has 35 degrees below zero. Trains are late and sheep are dying by thousands on the ranges.

A series of anti-strike laws has been enacted by the legislature of New Zealand, but labor leaders declare they will be no hindrance to strikes.

Governor Haskell, of Oklahoma, openly accuses Attorney General West with being responsible for the two recent bank failures in that state.

Baroness Vaughn, the legal wife of the late king of Belgium, will push her son's claim to the throne in order to secure the bulk of Leopold's fortune.

A negro bandit shot and killed the motorman and conductor of a St. Louis streetcar, robbed the conductor, and then let the car run wild through the heart of the city.

J. J. Hill says his roads are preparing to handle a heavy immigration to the coast next year.

La Follette, in his weekly magazine, sharply criticizes President Taft and his recent message.

Prince Albert of Flanders, a nephew of the late King Leopold of Belgium, will occupy the throne.

An exposition company has been incorporated in San Francisco to celebrate the completion of the Panama canal.

The United States Steel corporation is preparing to abandon Pittsburgh and establish itself at Gary, Indiana, on account of labor troubles.

The Monarch Oil company of California owned by J. D. and A. B. Spreckels will establish a northwest refinery and distributing station at Portland.

Striking switchmen in Spokane say every union railroad man in that city will be called out if the roads do not agree to arbitration before Christmas.

Baron Shibusawa, who has recently returned to Tokio from a visit to America, says Americans are Japan's best friends and at the same time her deadliest enemies.

A boiler explosion at the Royal Clay works, at New Philadelphia, Ohio, killed two men and wrecked the entire plant. A third man is missing. One body was blown 200 yards.

J. J. Hill declares the strike of the switchmen is over, so far as the Hill roads are concerned.

A sensational attack upon Secretary Ballinger on the floor of the house makes it practically certain that a thorough investigation of the general land office will be made soon after Christmas.

Carnegie will give \$100,000 for a public library building in Honolulu.

More oats are raised than any other kind of grain, the world's crop for 1908 being 3,500,000,000 bushels.

The state supreme court of Indiana has declared the county local option law of that state to be constitutional.

MONEY TRUST IN SIGHT.

Could Cripple Government by Refusing to Buy Bonds.

New York, Dec. 21.—So close have become the alliance and amalgamations of leading financial interests in Wall street during the last three months that almost the absolute control of the country's financial affairs is now centralized in the hands of a few men, who are acting in concert. A money trust has come into existence, with J. P. Morgan at its head, the most gigantic combination of capital in the world.

There is no concrete definite organization to this latest trust; no legal incorporation, no elected directors, no list of stockholders. To use the descriptive phrase of the financial world, it is simply a "community of interest."

Representative members of this community of interest, men who would be directors of an incorporated company are: J. Pierpont Morgan, private banker, its unquestioned leader; George P. Baker, chairman of the board of directors of the First National bank; James Stillman, chairman of the board of directors of the National City bank; William Rockefeller, vice-president of the Standard Oil company; Henry C. Frick, capitalist; William K. Vanderbilt, as representative of his family interest.

It would be impossible to figure the total of direct and indirect capital now centralized in this money trust. To begin with, the banking firm of J. Pierpont Morgan & Co., being a private partnership, makes no public reports, yet reports place its deposits at \$100,000,000, which its directors can utilize to advantage in financial operations. The assets of the three insurance companies controlled by the group, invested largely in bonds of railroad and industrial companies, aggregate considerably more than \$1,000,000,000.

Here are some of the things the trust could do:

It could call \$200,000,000 of loans over night and ruin any adversary.

It could reduce credits to such a degree as to cause extreme money stringency and great commercial distress.

It could tie up the cash holdings of New York banks by demanding certification of checks for enormous amounts.

It could deplete bank reserves in New York by causing shipments of cash to any part of the country.

It could make money rate of interest almost as it chose, from 2 per cent to 100 per cent on call loans.

It could cripple the financial operations of the government by refusing to purchase any bond issue.

It could dictate the financial operations of the great railway systems and expanding industrial concerns.

RAILROADERS DEMAND INCREASE

From 5 to 40 Per Cent Raise Asked by 75,000 Men.

Pittsburg, Dec. 21.—The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen Monday will serve notice on 75 railroad companies east of the Mississippi river that an increase in wages will be demanded of from 5 to 40 per cent. W. G. Lee, national president of the brotherhood, tonight refused to intimate what action would be taken in case the demand is refused. It is said the recent referendum vote of the trainmen regarding the demand for an increase resulted in a practically unanimous vote in its favor. About 75,000 members of the brotherhood are employed on the rail roads affected.

New York, Dec. 21.—The action of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, as announced in Pittsburg today, was not unexpected in New York.

Knowing that the referendum vote was being taken, railroad heads are preparing to meet the situation, and several conferences have been held within the last two weeks, looking to a settlement of the difficulties.

Cincinnati, Dec. 21.—With a referendum vote of 100,000 completed tonight, J. J. Dermody, fourth vice president of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, announced that 80 per cent of the members had voted for a strike.

Dermody said that while the vote was practically unanimous, the result did not necessarily mean there would be a strike. He admitted that there was little probability of future conferences with officials of the Big Four, who have definitely rejected all demands, but said the question of a strike was now up to the committee of seven, which, with the national body of the union, would settle the matter. About 1000 men are involved.

Elks' Club Called Bar.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 21.—There is much comment concerning the trial of the Elks, which will occur tomorrow afternoon. Every lawyer in this city who is an Elk has tendered his services to the Elks' lodge. More than 25 lawyers will appear to defend the Elks, who have been arrested on the charge of conducting a bar without license. One lawyer said today that the disposing of liquor in the Elks' club does not amount to a sale, as all the Elks own the liquor, and what they pay for the liquor served to them is used to replenish stock.

Satelli Seriously Ill.

Rome, Dec. 21.—Cardinal Satelli, who recently suffered a relapse from neuritis, was slightly improved this morning and insisted upon a chaplain celebrating mass in the sick room. He also took communion.

His condition this afternoon was much worse. Alarming symptoms developed and there was some delirium. Grave fears are entertained for the cardinal's recovery. Many telegrams of inquiry have been received from America.

Liners Swept by Gales.

London, Dec. 21.—Incoming transatlantic liners report terrific weather. The Germania, New York and America, arriving at Queenstown and Plymouth respectively today, were all greatly delayed. Four days out they met hurricanes from the eastward, with mountainous seas, which continued until Saturday night.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

OREGON RICH IN GOOD OIL.

Reported Big Strike Has Been Made in Malheur County.

Vale—Every day's boring in the Vale oil fields increases the certainty that Oregon is destined to become one of the greatest oil producing states in the country, say prospectors and oil experts who have witnessed the results of the well-sinking now in progress by half a dozen different companies in Northern Malheur county.

The Malheur Oil & Gas company, after sinking a well 1,700 feet and getting well into a chocolate formation, which is regarded as a sure forerunner of oil, capped the well and refuse absolutely to allow visitors to approach it. This action is believed by others operating in the district to have been prompted by the fact that oil was actually struck in the Malheur well and that the company prosecuting the development work has some reason for not allowing it to become known, that oil has actually been found in commercial quantities. The Baker-Malheur company is down 900 feet and has let a contract for sinking its well 1,100 feet deeper, having taken this action after oil experts from Pennsylvania and California had expressed the belief that oil would be struck at a depth of 1800 to 2000 feet.

The Columbia Oil & Gas company, which is largely owned in Spokane, is down 1200 feet with a 12 inch drill and is passing through the same formation that was found in the celebrated Kern river district in Southern California. It was from this well that the sample of oil was procured by the special government representative of the geological survey whose report on the discovery resulted in a recommendation being made by Secretary of the Interior Ballinger that the whole district be withdrawn from entry and reserved as a source of fuel supply for the future use of the United States navy.

The well being sunk by the Eastern Oregon Oil company is down 800 feet and has passed through two strata of oil sand. The drill in this well recently encountered hot salt water, which is regarded as a sure indication of oil in commercial quantities.

The Mammoth Oil & Gas company is another of the companies sinking a well in the district. This company is owned by men who have operated in other fields, and they express the greatest confidence in the district.

One of the best drilling rigs in the district has just been set up by the Vale Oil & Gas company, which is prepared to expend \$25,000 in developing its claim. D. M. Hunt, who has had 25 years' experience in the oil fields of West Virginia, Ohio and California, and who is now superintending the development work of one of the largest concerns operating in the Vale oil fields, says:

"The Vale district is the most promising that I have ever seen, and I shall be greatly surprised if it does not turn out to be one of the greatest oil producing sections of the United States."

IMPROVING O. R. & N.

Contract Signed for \$600,000 Worth of Work on Des Chutes Line.

The Dalles—Twohy Bros. contractors are putting an army of 700 men to work on the trackage of the O. R. & N. Co. between The Dalles and Des Chutes for the purpose of removing curves and reducing the grade to a maximum of 15 per cent. The contract was signed just prior to Vice-President J. P. O'Brien's departure for New York a few days ago.

The project is one of the largest put under way for a long time, outside of new construction, and will involve the expenditure of at least \$600,000. While not admitted by the railroad officials at this time, it is understood that the work means the preliminary and essential step towards double tracking the company's line from Portland to Des Chutes, which distance will be subjected to unusually heavy traffic with the completion of a branch into central Oregon by way of the Des Chutes canyon.

Linn Schools Show Gain.

Albany—The report of County School Superintendent Jackson of this city shows that Albany schools this year have an attendance of 1,378. Last year the attendance was 1,210. Lebanon this year has 111 scholars more than the previous year. North Brownsville shows a gain of 12. South Brownsville, 5. Halsey five. Shedd's two. Tangent and Oakville two. Harrisburg and Selma are the only towns showing a loss in attendance.

Ontario Scholars Chosen.

Ontario—The faculty of the Ontario High school has chosen two debating teams, one of which will debate with the Baker City High school January 7, and the other with a team from the Cove High school on the same date. The six students chosen to represent Ontario are Herbert Williams, Eddie Draper, Miss Margaret Dunbar, George Hardman, Howard Mallett, and Miss Ethel Millikin.

Hood River Will Pave Streets.

Hood River—It has been decided that Hood River will have paved streets before another winter. It is estimated that it will cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000 to do the projected street work.

New Depot at Milton.

Milton—Milton is to have a new depot. The present freight house has become entirely inadequate to accommodate the business, and arrangements are being made to erect a large brick structure.

RUSHING SPRAGUE BRANCH.

Three Hundred Men Pushing Klamath Line to Reservation.

Klamath Falls—Andrew Erickson, railroad contractor, has taken a subcontract to build the last 12 miles of the 25 miles of track to be built from Klamath Falls to Sprague river by Erickson & Peterson. Sub-Contractor Erickson has already established his camp on the Indian reservation and has about 100 men employed, and intends to start a steam shovel in the near future.

There are now over 300 men employed in the railroad camps from here to Sprague river, and this end of the work is being rushed as fast as possible.

The track is laid on the main line a distance of about three miles. The industrial spur from the main line to the lake is completed and the railroad can now take the material to be used in construction work to the lake and then by water to the different points along the lake shore where the men are working.

At the waterfront the Southern Pacific is building a large wharf and warehouse. These waterfront improvements will be used in connection with the railroad construction, and when the work is completed will be used as freight houses, etc., in connection with shipping on the upper lake by the Southern Pacific.

Double Milton Light Plant.

Milton—After a shutdown of 50 days, during which the capacity for generating electric current was more than doubled by the installation of new machinery and the erection of a steel standpipe, the Milton light and power plant is again in service. The plant is equipped with the latest model water wheel and other machinery, and represents a total expense of \$50,000. A water head of between 50 and 60 feet is now maintained.

Gooch Gets Postoffice.

Shelburn—A postoffice has been established in the new town of Gooch, located on the Corvallis & Eastern, about 20 miles east of this place, and will be supplied with mail by the C. & E. trains daily except Sunday. The inhabitants of the town are chiefly engaged in logging and lumbering. The large sawmill of the Fred Gooch Lumber company is located at Gooch.

Increase in School Population.

Lebanon—The school census of the Lebanon district has been completed, and it shows that there are 555 children of school age in the district, of which 298 are girls and 257 are boys. This is an increase of 111 over the enumeration of 1908, the total number last year being 444.

New Theater at Medford.

Medford—Excavation has begun for the Page building, the work to be finished by February 1. The basement is 8x150 feet. The plans for the building include an up-to-date theater and also storerooms and offices.

Big Crop Alfalfa Seed.

Lakeview—George Gerald, of the Honey Lake valley, threshed 40,000 pounds of alfalfa seed this season, which at the selling price of 13 cents brought him a nice income of \$5,200.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$121@122; club, \$110; red Russian, \$1.08; Valley, \$1.05.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30@31 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$55; cracked, \$56 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$26 per ton; middlings, \$33; shorts, \$28.50@29.50; rolled barley, \$31.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$32.50@33.50.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@21.50; alfalfa, \$16@16.50; clover, \$15@16; cheat, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.

Butter—City creamery extras, 39c; fancy outside creamery, 3c@35c per lb.; store, 22c@24c. Butter fat prices average 1c per lb. under regular butter prices.

Poultry—Hens, 14@14c; Springs, 14@14c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 18@19c; geese 14c; turkeys, live, 22c@23c; dressed, 26c@28c.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 42c per dozen; Eastern, 30c@35c per dozen.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$13 box; pears, \$16@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$9 per barrel.

Potatoes—Carload buying prices: Oregon, 60c@80c per sack; sweet potatoes, 1c@2c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; cabbage, 1c per pound; celery, \$2.75@3.25 per crate; garlic, 10c per pound; horseradish, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 1c@1c; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1c@1c; tomatoes, 75c @81c.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, \$1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; common to medium, \$2.50@3.75; bulls \$2@2.50; stage \$2.50@3.50; calves, light, \$5.25 @5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75.

Hogs—Best, \$8.50@8.75; medium, \$7.50@8; stockers, \$6.50@6.75.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.00@5.75; fair to good, \$4.25@4.75; best ewes, \$4.50@5.00.

Hops—1909 crop, 18@22c; 1908 crop, normal; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 8c.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@19c per pound; dry kip, 17@18c per pound; dry calfskin, 19@21c per pound; salted hides, 10c@11c; salted calfskin, 15@16c per pound; green, 1c less.

ZELAYA RESIGNS.

Says Fate Was Against Him—Successor Not Chosen.

Managua, Dec. 17.—Jose Santos Zelaya has resigned from the presidency of Nicaragua. He placed his resignation in the hands of congress yesterday.

Apparently there was no other course to take. The people were aroused at last. The guns of the revolutionists threatened. The warships of the United States lay in Nicaraguan ports.

Managua has been seething for days. The spirit of revolt has spread even to the gates of the palace. Zelaya has surrounded himself with an armed guard. Unchecked the populace has marched through the streets, crying for the end of the old and proclaiming the new regime.

Who will take up the reins no one knows or cares. It is sufficient that Zelaya as dictator will be known no more. There is no doubt that congress will act quickly on his resignation, for the people have demanded it.

Dr. Jose Madriz, judge of the Central American court of justice at Cartago, who has been close to Zelaya, and is now his choice for president, is on his way here. He will arrive on Saturday. Madriz has his following, strong and influential, even among the revolutionists, but General Estrada, under whose command the body of fighting insurgents now faces Vasquez' troops at Rama, will have none of him. Estrada's word will bear weight in the choice of president.

Zelaya has known, too, that Madriz is not acceptable to the United States, and he has sought to learn who would be looked upon with favor by that government as his successor, but the American government, so far as can be learned, has named no man, and the choice probably will lie with those who have gained the upper hand.

KING LEOPOLD IS DEAD.

Passed Suddenly After Making Brave Rally From Operation.

Brussels, Dec. 17.—King Leopold died at 2:35 o'clock this morning, his aged and wasted body unable to stand the strain put upon it. The collapse occurred suddenly and at a moment when the doctors seemingly had the greatest hopes for his recovery.

Throughout yesterday bulletins issued from the sickroom indicated progressive improvement. The bulletin posted at 6:30 o'clock gave the king's temperature, pulse and respiration as practically normal. Apparently the drainage of the wound was perfect, as no fever was present all day. The king had been able to take nourishment.

The public at large was satisfied that the king would recover, but within the pavilion where the king lay, anxiety was felt, chiefly because of Leopold's great age. After a restful day the patient was able to sleep for a brief period early in the evening and the night passed quietly.

The king's coolness and courage in the heroic struggle won the admiration of all, for at no time did he seem to fear the result. Now that he is dead it is considered remarkable he was able to survive so long by the force of his mentality.

When Goffinet emerged from the high walls of the royal garden, his pale face startled the newspaper correspondents outside. He paused for a moment and said solemnly, "The king is dead."

Two Dynamiters Are Dynamited.

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 17.—That the intervention of death frustrated a well arranged plot to dynamite the safe of a Tulsa bank is the belief of the local authorities, following the discovery of the bodies of two men terribly mangled by the explosion of nitroglycerine, two miles from this city early today. Near the torn bodies were found complete kits of cracksmen's tools. A battered receptacle that had contained the explosive was found on the river bank several rods away. The police believe the men were making their way toward Tulsa.

Quake Shakes Mexico.

Mexico City, Dec. 17.—Mexico was shaken by a slight earthquake this morning. Reports at the central meteorological department show that a mild oscillatory movement was felt at San Juan Bautista at 6:30 o'clock and at Tehuantepec, state of Oaxaca, a vibration was felt at 6:20 o'clock, lasting five seconds. Colima reported an oscillatory vibration lasting two seconds at 10:20 o'clock this morning. The quake was not reported at any other point.

Wind Blows Cars Eight Miles.

Sheridan, Wyo., Dec. 17.—Burlington passenger train No. 41 ran into five cars which had been blown by the snow storm from a switch at Wyola, Wyo., tonight, demolishing the cars and wrecking the engine. No one was injured. The runaway cars had been blown eight miles before the passenger train struck them. Other cars started by the wind had not been found.

Wheels Grind Up \$250,000.

Pittsburg, Dec. 17.—More than \$250,000 worth of internal revenue tax paid whisky stamps, the property of the government, were mutilated or blown away today when the iron arm attached to a mail car on a fast train failed to connect properly with a registered mail bag and threw it under the wheels. The accident occurred at Gibbstown, near here.

Longer Car Grant Losses.

Kansas City, Dec. 17.—The proposition to extend the franchise of the Metropolitan Streetcar company—which now holds the traction rights of the city up to 1925—26 years, or 42 years from the present, was defeated at a special election today by a majority of 7,091. This was the first election held under the referendum law.

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